

FAVORS OBTAINED THROUGH THE INTERCESSION OF ST. BENEDICT AND THE USE OF HIS MEDAL.—Bruno, a child, in consequence of having been bitten by a venomous serpent, suffered excruciating pains and was on the point of death. One night he saw from his bed a luminous ladder reaching up to heaven, and on it a venerable and aged man, clad in a monk's cowl, whom he recognized to be St. Benedict. The Saint descended, carrying in his hand a shining cross, touched the swollen face of the child, healed him and disappeared. Bruno, who was cured in so wonderful a manner, afterwards joined the Order of St. Benedict, became Pope in the year 1048, assuming the name of Leo IX, and is renowned in the church for his piety, his devotion to the holy Cross and to St. Benedict. Owing to this miraculous cure the veneration of the medal of St. Benedict received as it were a higher sanction and was more universally spread.

THE MEDAL OF ST. BENEDICT VS. SPIRITISM. Who has not heard or read of rapping spirits, turning tables, writing boards (planchette), &c., &c.? Rev. Father Lacombe, S. J., a missionary in India relates some curious facts concerning them in a letter dated "Trichinopoly: Febr. 1894." I translate a part of it, writes a correspondent.

"An American firm, established lately at Calcutta (Bengal) is selling a considerable number of writing tablets to the Hindoos for the sum of — \$1.25. They are strange looking little boards, 7 inches long, made in the shape of a heart, with two small casters attached on each side, and a hole bored at the end to allow for the passage of a pencil. Two persons place their hands on this table and call on the spirit.

"Good evening, Madam—Good evening, sir," they say—the spirit it seems wants to be addressed civilly.

"Is it convenient for you to have a little chat with us this evening?" The answer is yes or no, and if, yes, the conversation starts on. You may judge of the success of this marvelous tablet! The Pagans are delighted to have a little fun with the devil at so small a cost. As to our Christians who are not allowed the use of the tablets, it is a matter of great temptation for them, and we are sometimes obliged to refuse them the sacraments for not complying with our defense. I wish now to relate to you a fact, that caused lately a great deal of sensation among the spirits of our town. A young Bramin (a catechumen) who had